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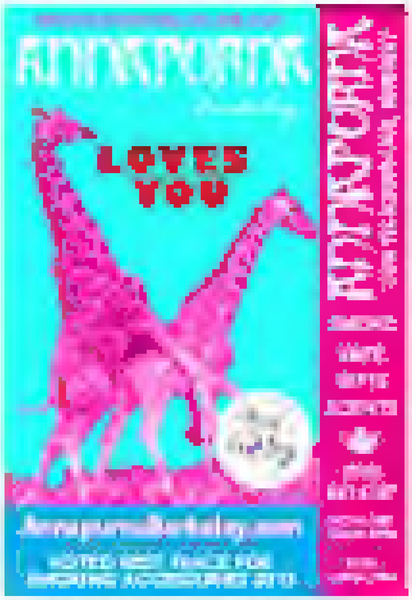


TURNING HOUSING INTO HOTELS

In the East Bay, Airbnb has expanded far beyond the rental of spare bedrooms and is now fostering the practice of taking entire homes and apartments off the long-term rental market.

By Darwin BondGraham





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EDITORIAL
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ART & PRODUCTION
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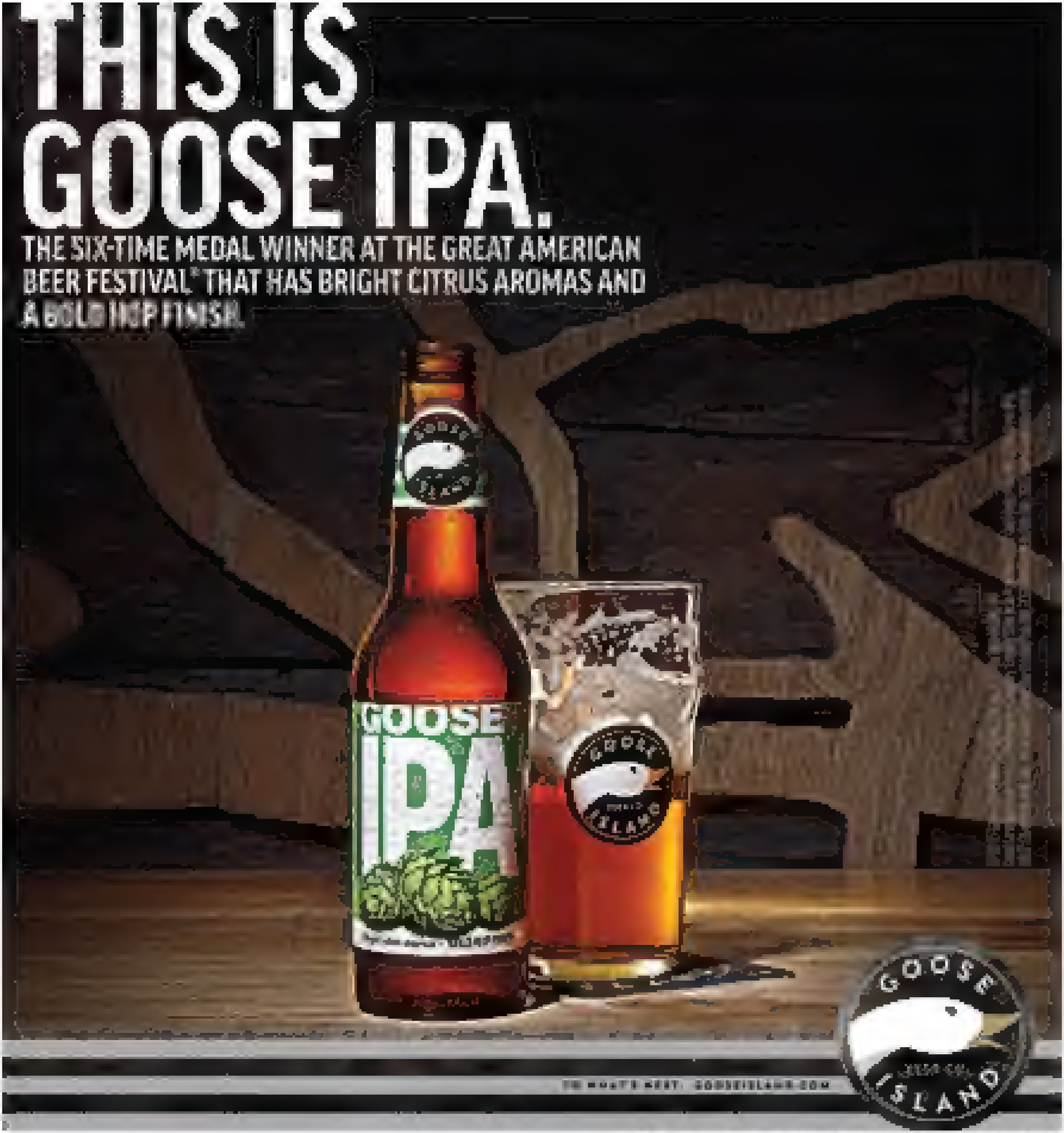
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Correction



Sausal Creek runs from the East Bay hills to San Francisco Bay. [illegible]

THEN AND NOW

An Oakland Waterway Reborn

Sausal Creek, which was once thought of as dirty and unsafe, is once again a treasure thanks to the work of a local nonprofit.

By Laurel Hennen Vigil

During the past few centuries, the ways in which Oaklanders have interacted with Sausal Creek — which runs through much of the city, starting in the East Bay hills and draining into the San Francisco Bay — have varied as much as the creek itself.

For most of Oakland's early settlers, the creek was a valued natural landmark. One of the first Europeans to come to the area was Luis Maria Peralta, whose Rancho San Antonio covered much of what is now the East Bay. When Peralta's sons inherited the land, the creek was among its dividing lines. Sausal Creek also served as a source of food and fertile soil for early settlers. The Fruitvale neighborhood gained its name from the hundreds of acres of cherry trees that [illegible] Henderson Luelling planted on the creek's banks [illegible]. Many of Oakland's [illegible] century residents also [illegible] into the hills for picnics along Sausal Creek.

As Oakland became increasingly urbanized in the 20th century, public opinion about the creek changed. Oaklanders no longer viewed it as picturesque, but instead as a nuisance standing in the way of development. Much of the creek was culverted (rerouted into underground tunnels), especially after the East Bay Municipal Utility District formed in 1923 to provide residents with alternate water sources. Several attempts were made in the 1950s and '60s to dam the creek and block it off with concrete.

This lack of regard for Sausal Creek continued for decades, until a group of [illegible] came together in 1996 with a vision of restoring the creek. In 2000, the organization, Friends of Sausal Creek (FOSC), incorporated as a nonprofit, working with an annual grant from the Alameda County Flood Control District to promote awareness and encourage [illegible] and restoration of our local ecology. FOSC [illegible] this with projects to daylight (uncover culverted) creeks, remove invasive plant species, and propagate native plants at its own nursery in Joaquin Miller Park. These programs promote biodiversity in the East Bay hills and expand natural habitats for many species of plants and animals, as well as create beautiful spaces for Oaklanders to enjoy.

Those who work with FOSC have much to say about their love for this organization and the ecosystem it protects, but what most stands out in their comments is their dedication to fostering change within the Oakland community. [illegible] McKinley, a FOSC board member, said she was drawn to this type of work because she "wants the efforts that I make in the world to be local." Board member [illegible] added, "This is an opportunity to teach kids that [the creek] is a part of their heritage."

With so many issues in the world, it is often difficult to know how we can actually make a difference. Volunteering with a local nonprofit like FOSC is an excellent way to start. When asked how East Bay residents can help effect change, FOSC restoration manager [illegible] said that the best way is to "get involved in an organization in your neighborhood. Find what you like and go for it." Not only does FOSC work to protect our environment, but it also [illegible] a newfound appreciation for a creek that, like Oakland itself, was once thought of by many as dirty and unsafe. Because of this organization, Sausal Creek is once again a treasured local amenity.

Upcoming FOSC events include Creek to Bay Day at Dimond Park on September 19, as well as the organization's annual native plant sale on October [illegible]. For more information, visit SausalCreek.org.

Laurel Hennen Vigil is a senior at Oakland [illegible] High School. [illegible]

[illegible]



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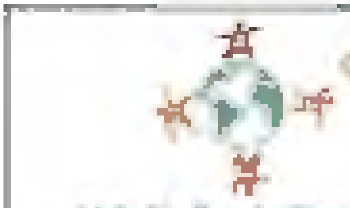
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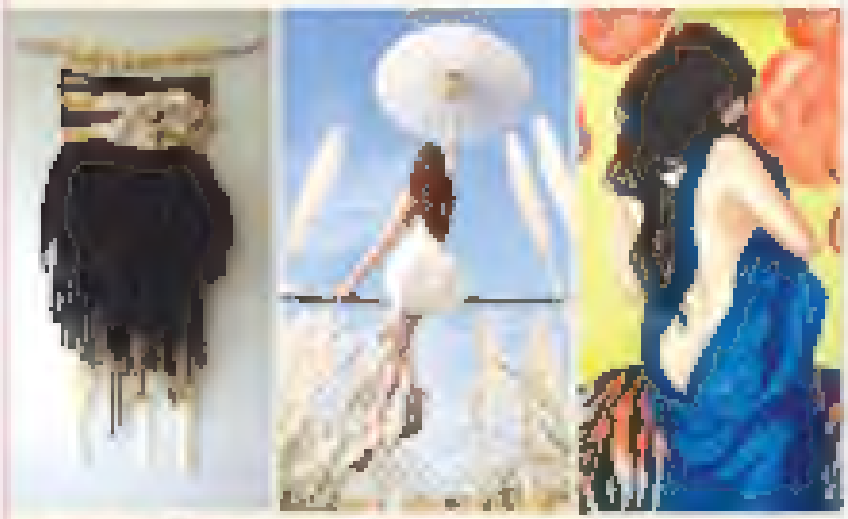
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NEWS

County Seeks Jail Expansion

Despite ongoing efforts to reduce the jail population and prioritize social services, the Alameda County Sheriff's Office is quietly pursuing $80 million to build a new jail unit.

By Sam Levin

are available to county jails through Senate Bill 863, legislation that passed in 2014. That bill authorizes the state to award up to $500 million in construction financing for county adult jails. The projects, according to state guidelines, should be geared toward replacing or renovating outdated or unsafe jail facilities or building new units focused on rehabilitation services or mental health treatment. SB 863 further stipulates that the projects should not increase a jail's capacity — unless a county has documented a clear deficiency in its number of beds.

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC), which reviews and selects applications, doled out a first round of jail construction funds to thirteen counties in 2015 as part of Senate Bill 1022, similar legislation that Governor Jerry Brown signed in 2012. As of last week, 30 counties had submitted proposals for the second round of funds through SB 863, and BSCC is beginning the process of reviewing applications, according to spokesperson Tracie Cone. The board will select proposals in November, she said. BSCC also declined to provide me with a copy of Alameda County's proposal.

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office, which did not apply for funding through the 2012 legislation, told the board that it wants to build a new "Mental Health Program and Services Unit" in Santa Rita Jail. That wing, according to the board resolution, would include housing, administrative offices, mental health treatment programs, and recovery services for mentally ill inmates. The county selected a private firm, Vanir Construction Management, to prepare the application. (Vanir representatives did not respond to a request for comment.) The project, which would not increase the county's jail capacity, would address a major gap in mental health services at the facility, according to Ahern's three-page memo to the board of supervisors.

Currently, roughly 20 to 25 percent of county jail inmates suffer from mental illness. In recent months, the county has housed an average of roughly 2,600 total inmates per day in Santa Rita and in Glenn Dyer Jail in Oakland. There are no reentry programs in the county geared toward mentally ill inmates, and when they are released, they are given one week's worth of medication and a referral to a local mental health clinic, according to the sheriff.

In addition to better supporting inmates with mental illnesses, the expansion project would also help ensure that the facility is in compliance with state and federal laws that require the jail to be accessible to disabled people, according to Ahern's memo. It's unclear, however, if potential concerns about Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) violations are driving the expansion proposal. Kelly, the assistant sheriff, said to me in an email, "We do consider Santa Rita to be ADA accessible, but we are always looking to improve this."

While efforts to make the facility more accommodating for people with mental illnesses may sound promising, advocates said that Santa Rita Jail is no longer operating the people to receive the kind of care and treatment they require. On the contrary, studies have shown how jails and prisons can lead inmates to develop mental illnesses or exacerbate existing ones. And at Santa Rita Jail in particular, a number of recent controversies and lawsuits have shed light on how the sheriff's office has disregarded the mental health and medical needs of the people living in its jails, critics say. The county and its Santa Rita Jail healthcare contractor recently agreed to pay an $8.3 million settlement to the family of Martin Harrison who died behind bars after allegedly receiving inadequate healthcare treatment. And in July, another inmate, Mario Martinez, died from an asthma attack after he had complained that he was having trouble breathing, his family has said.

"We know this jail has no regard for human life," said Nguyen, adding, "I'm personally really fearful of jails becoming the new social service providers." She argued that law enforcement agencies should focus on ways to divert mentally ill people from jail and get them treatment outside of the criminal justice system.

Linda Evans, statewide attorney and communications co-coordinator with Californians United for a Responsible Budget, a group that has protested jail expansions, noted that the vast majority of Alameda County jail inmates are awaiting trial and have not yet been convicted. Many, she said, are stuck behind bars because they can't afford to pay bail, which means mentally ill inmates needlessly suffer the harms of incarceration. From January through March of this year, 2,173 out of 2,792 inmates (78 percent) were awaiting trial in Alameda County, according to state data.

If the county prioritized efforts to divert inmates who don't pose a public safety risk, it could significantly reduce its jail population and save money, Evans said. The sheriff's office could then invest those savings into programs that ensure that the people who truly need to be locked up receive humane and rehabilitative treatment behind bars. This, she said, would be a much more progressive solution than expanding the facility to serve consistently high rates of inmates.

"A jail is not an effective place to administer mental health treatment," Evans added. "You have no sense of control. You're separated from your social network and your family."

Meanwhile, the proposed jail expansion is coming at a time when the county has, in fact, reduced its jail population. From January to March of 2014, the county housed an average of 3,921 inmates per day — 500 more than the same time period this year.

Nationally, jails and prisons have, by default, become mental health providers, because community-based mental health programs have vanished woefully underfunded, experts note. But most jails are not designed to serve this population, according to Martin Horn, a John Jay College of Criminal Justice lecturer and a former New York City corrections official. "The very physical environment is counter-therapeutic," he said. But, he added, "This is where our society has chosen to put people with mental illnesses in very large numbers, and it's unfair to them and unfair to the jailers to deny them resources to do the job."

Sam Levin@EastBayExpress.com

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

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A proposed $11,700,000 class action settlement has been reached in a lawsuit called McCabe, Simpson & Sanchez v. Six Continents Hotels, Inc. (USDC, NDCA Case No. 12-cv-04818-NC). The lawsuit claims that Six Continents Hotels, Inc. recorded and monitored telephone calls of persons calling toll-free reservations and customer service lines while residing or located in California without telling callers that the calls may be recorded and monitored allegedly in violation of California law. Six Continents Hotels, Inc. has denied the claims. Nonetheless, Six Continents Hotels, Inc. and the Class Representatives have agreed to settle the dispute to avoid the uncertainty and costs of litigation. The $11,700,000 settlement fund will pay eligible claims, notice and administration costs, attorneys' fees and expenses, and named plaintiffs' service awards.

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To receive a settlement payment, eligible class members must submit a claim. It is expected that eligible class members who submit a timely and valid Claim Form will receive at least $100. The amount of each individual settlement payment will depend on the total number of claims filed. Regardless of the claims rate, the payment to any individual class member will not exceed $5,000.

Whether or not you submit a claim, if the Court approves the settlement, you will be bound by all of the Court's orders. This means you will not be able to make any claims against Six Continents Hotels, Inc. or affiliated entities covered by the settlement.

If you wish to submit a claim, visit www.HotelCallRecordingSettlement.com or contact the Claims Administrator at 1-888-972-6585 to get a Claim Form. The deadline to submit claims is **December 15, 2015**.

If you do not wish to be a member of the settlement class, you must submit a letter to the Claims Administrator at the address below postmarked by **December 15, 2015**. You may request to opt-out or be excluded from the settlement. If you opt-out you cannot submit a claim form. Visit the settlement website for more information.

If you wish to object to the settlement, you must do so by submitting your objection to the Court in person or writing postmarked by **December 15, 2015**. Visit the settlement website for more information.

A final hearing will be held on February 3, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. in the San Francisco Courthouse to determine the fairness, reasonableness and adequacy of the proposed settlement and to award attorneys' fees and costs and plaintiffs' service awards. The motion for attorneys' fees and costs and plaintiffs' service awards will be posted on the settlement website after they are filed. You may attend the hearing, but you do not have to.

This is only a summary. For detailed information, including the full text of the Settlement Agreement, the Class Notice and the Claim Form, visit www.HotelCallRecordingSettlement.com, call 1-888-972-6585, or write to the Settlement Administrator at: McCabe v. InterContinental Hotels Group, c/o Heffler Claims Group, P.O. Box 1000, Philadelphia, PA 19105-1000.

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Opposing Junipero Serra

The descendants of Indigenous people who were enslaved, tortured, and killed by the Catholic Missionary system plan to protest the pope's canonization of its leader.

By Will Parrish

When Spanish soldiers and missionaries arrived in the land they called Alta California in the 1700s, they were entering an astoundingly diverse array of Indigenous cultures' homelands. Then deadly waves of epidemic diseases swept over the [illegible] Indigenous population — an outcome the Spanish had anticipated. Military and religious officials subsequently used a combination of bribes and physical force to [illegible] the survivors to [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible] labor camps. By [illegible], at least [illegible] aboriginal people had died as a result of the Spanish mission system.

On September 23, Pope Francis will canonize the father of that system, Junipero Serra, at a ceremony in Washington, DC. Serra will then become a "saint" in the Roman Catholic Church.

To the descendants of those who survived the mission system, Serra's canonization is essentially a celebration of genocide. It is a reflection of a society that "wants people to pretend that historical events do not affect our contemporary lives," said [illegible] Miranda, a member of the Ohlone-Costanoan Esselen Nation of the Monterey Bay Area and an English professor at Washington and Lee University.

[illegible]



Pope Francis.

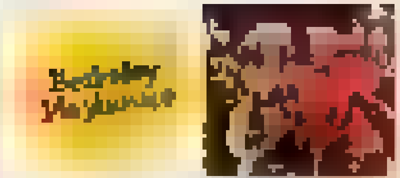
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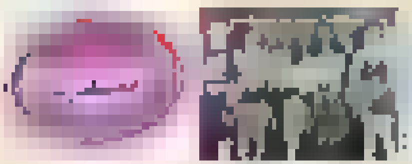
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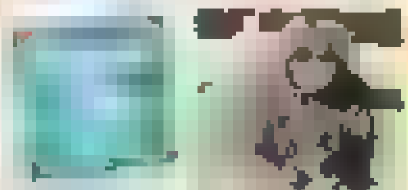
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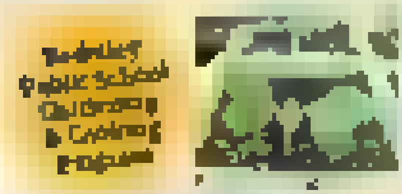
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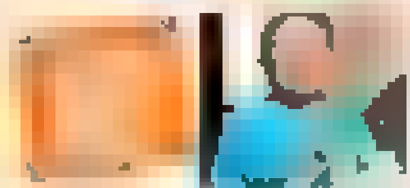
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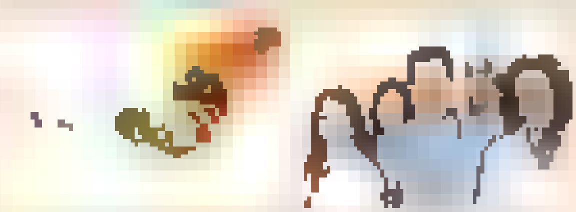
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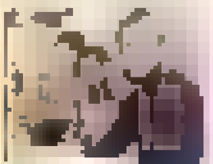






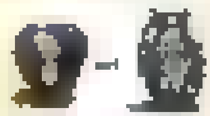


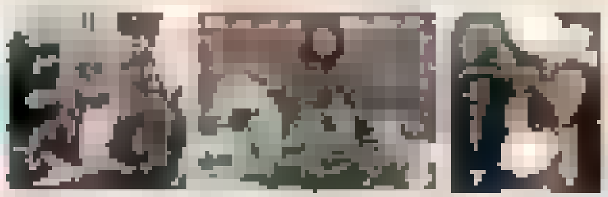






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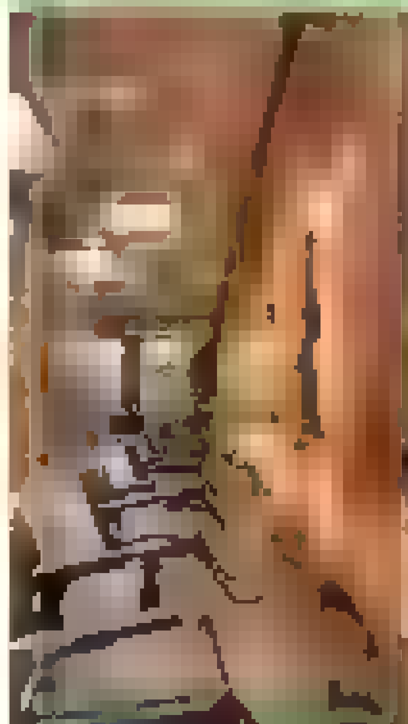
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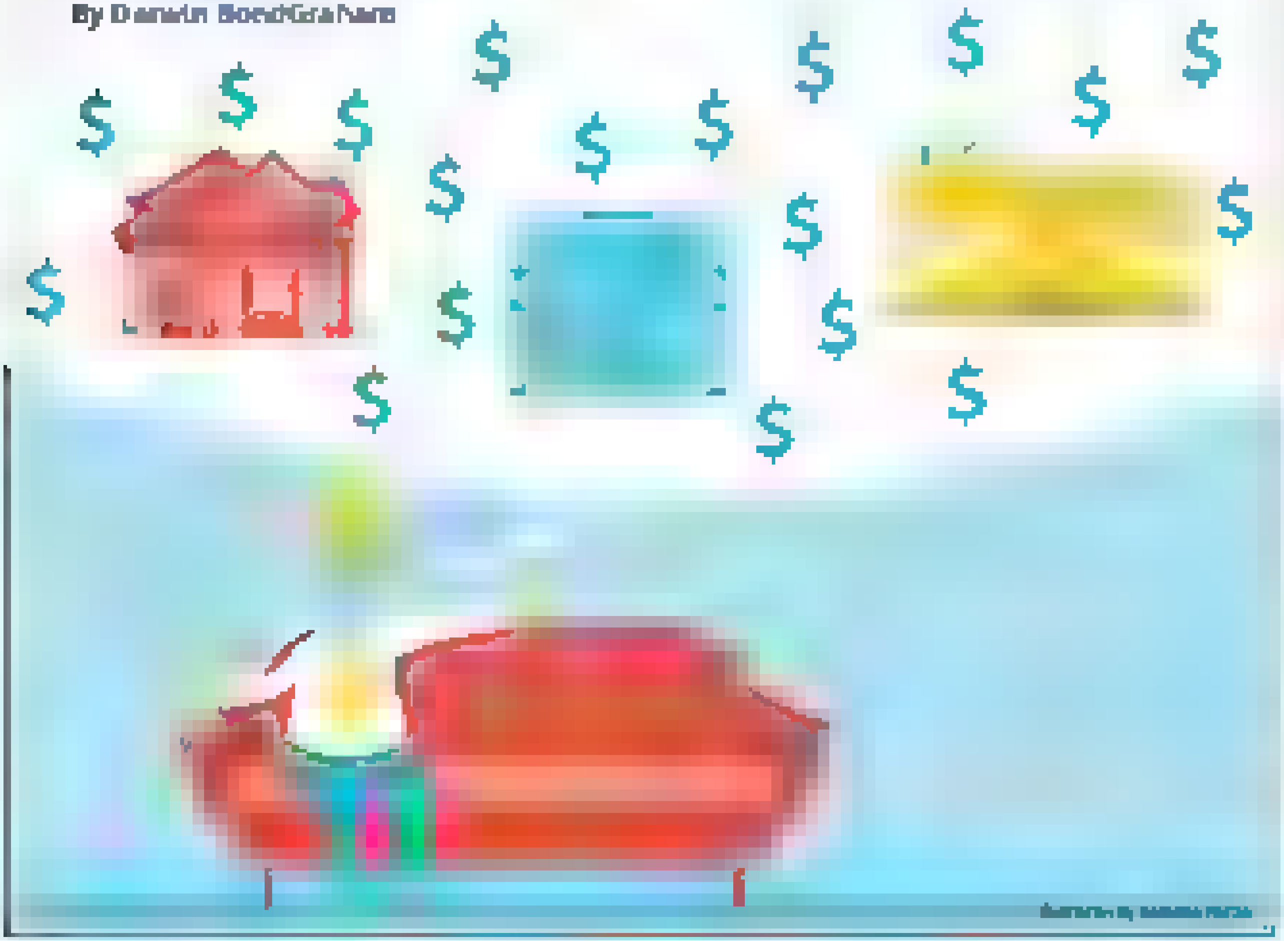
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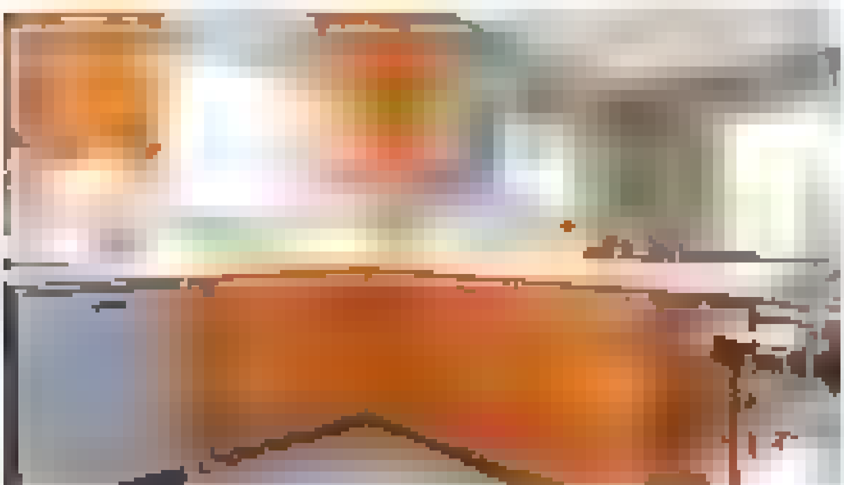
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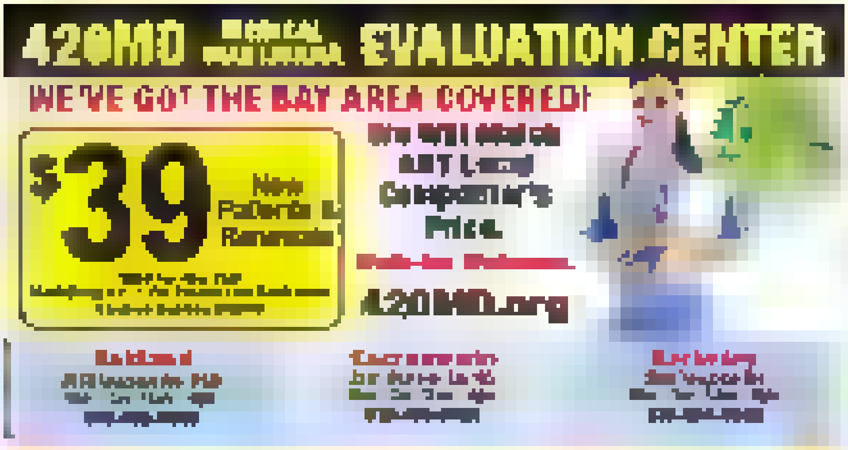


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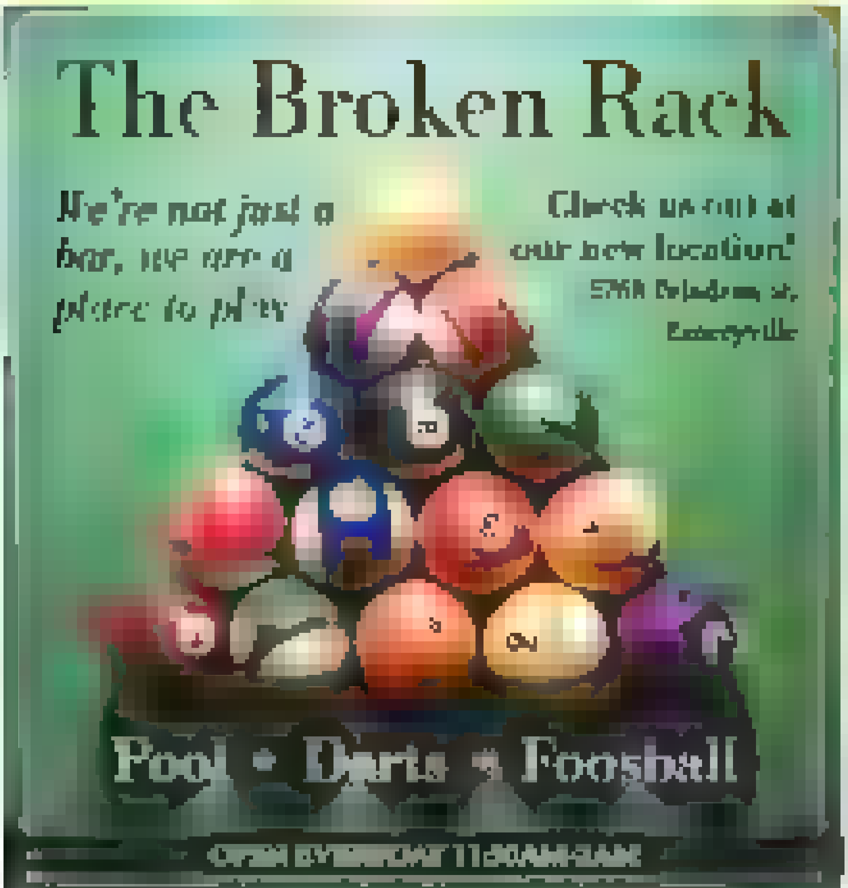
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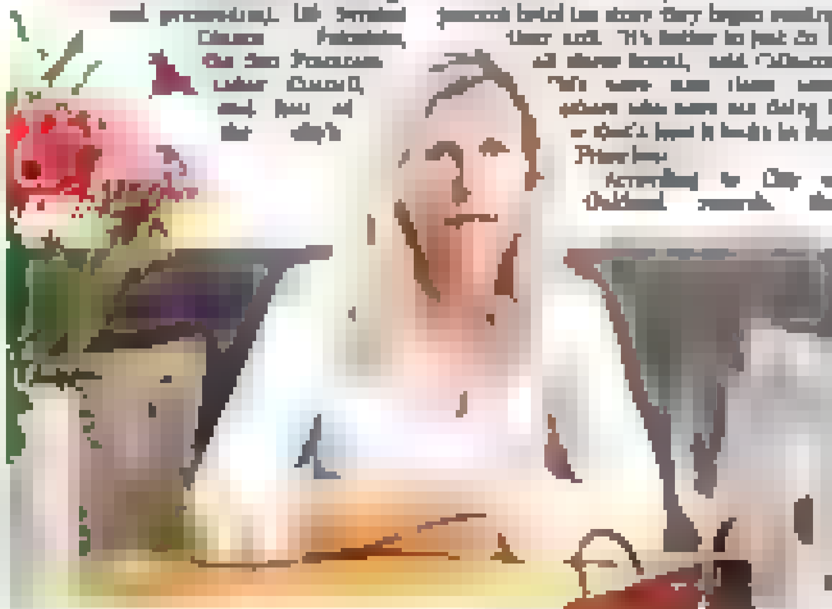
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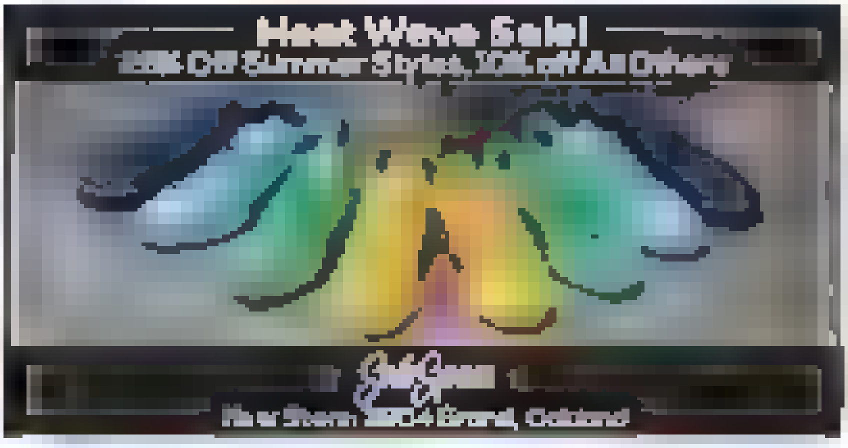
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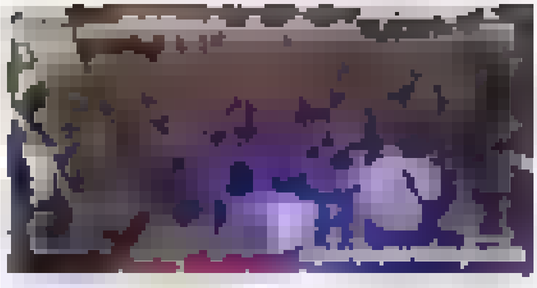
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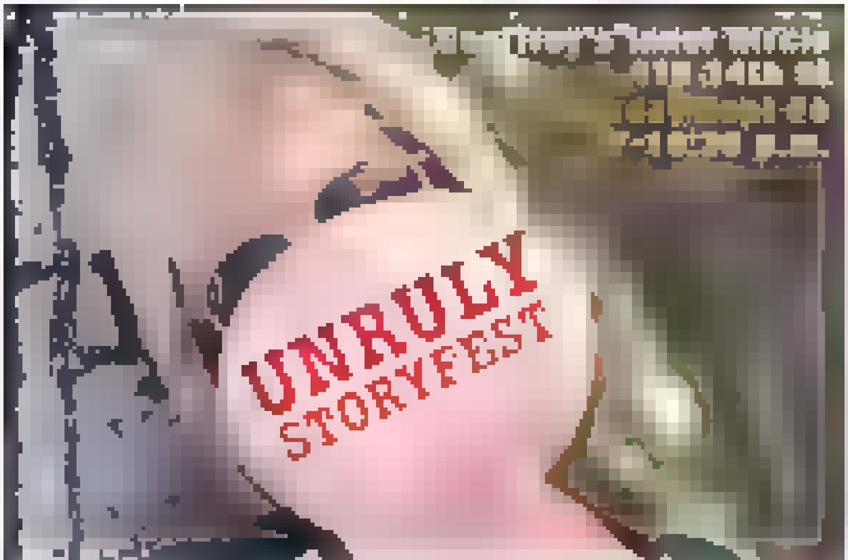
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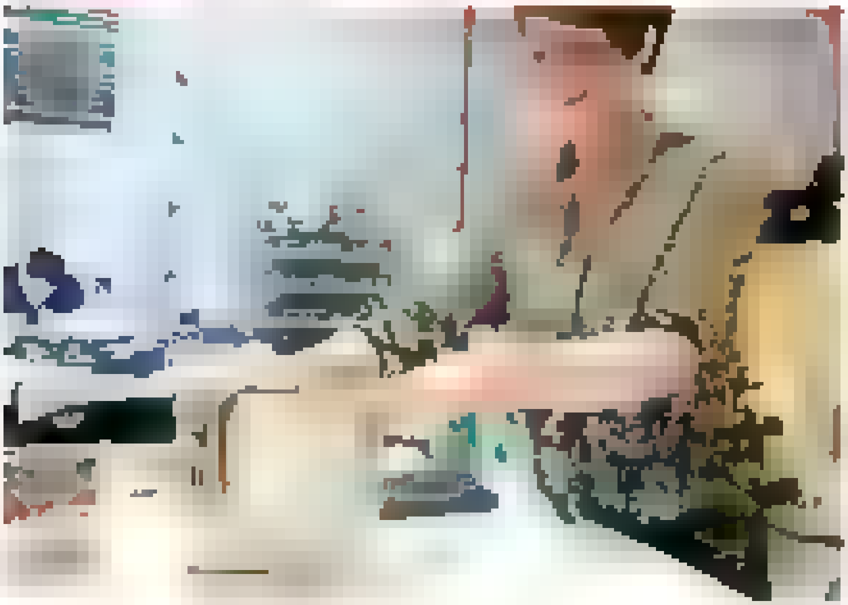

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By Sarah Burke

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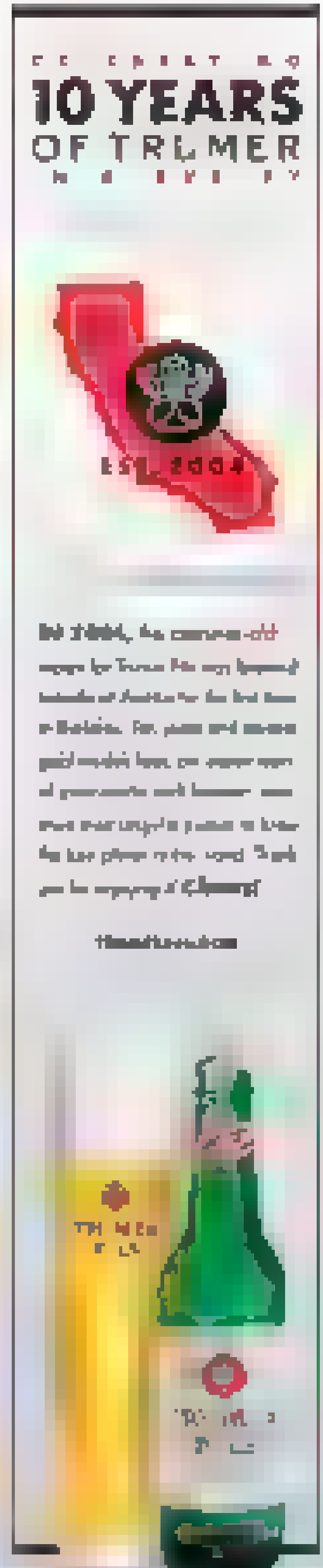
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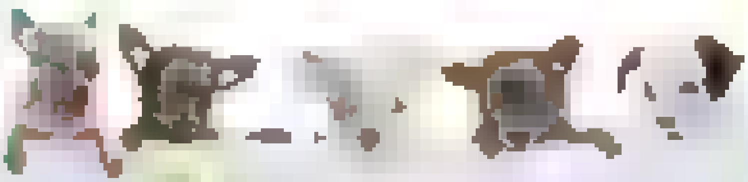




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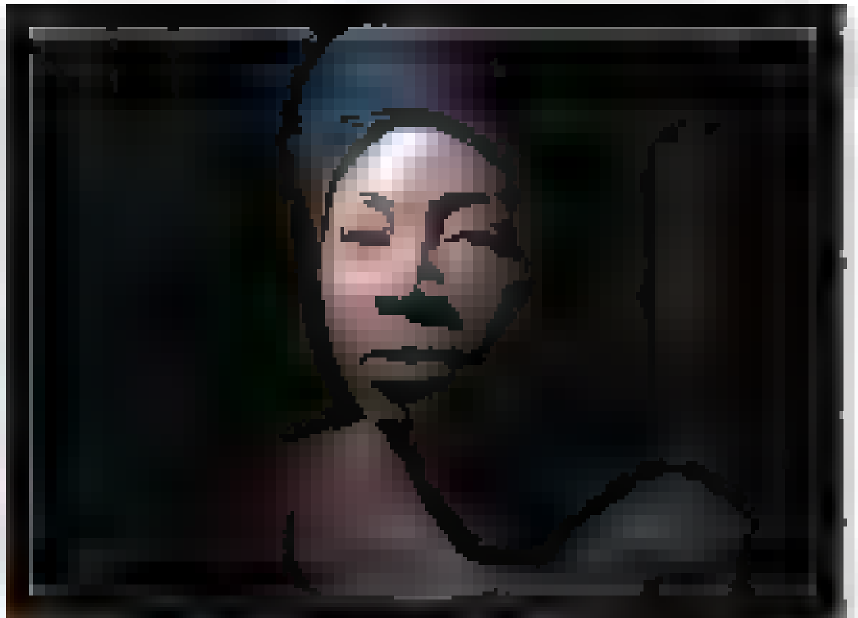
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The Power of a Letter

Oakland activist and playwright Regina Evans fights sex trafficking in the Bay Area through polemic oratory at the Flight Deck.

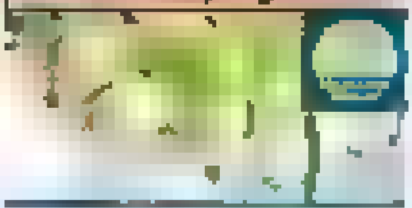



EXERCISE
OF THE WEEK
#6 SWIMMERS


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Highbrow, Lowbrow

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By Luke Tsai

Starline Social Club

Sample Menu

BERKELEY'S BEST BEER LIST
PERDITION SMOKEHOUSE

Taste of Ethiopia

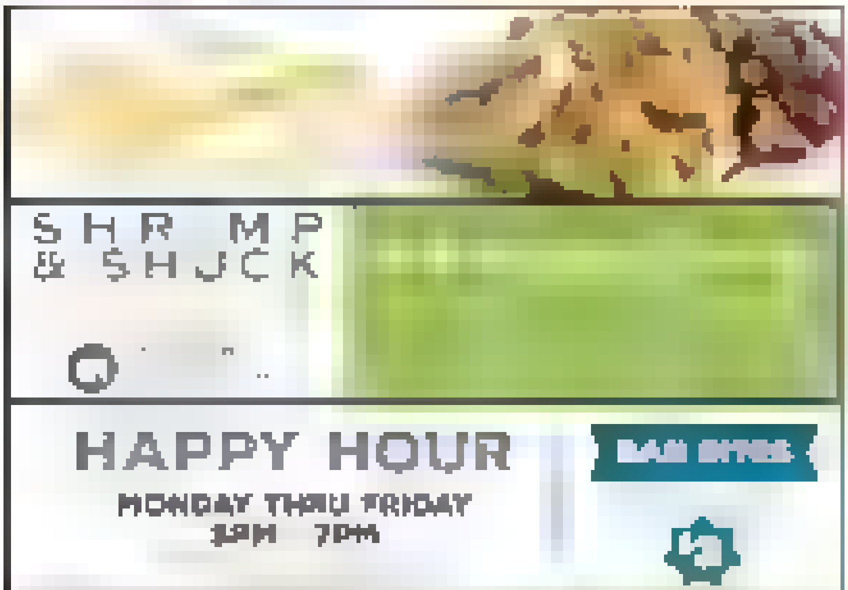
The HATCH
Late Night Eats
Bacon Dogs Fries & Hamburgers
Beer
Events
Mon-Sat
5PM to 2AM

10 YEARS OF TRUMER
EST. 2004




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BEST FRIED FISH TACOS

Thank you EBX readers!







A Guide to Eat Real 2015


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&
CARTOONS


Saturday Oct. 3
Oaktoberfest
SAFEWAY
Rocket
bank
Oakland

Vega Paella

A Spanish paella bar with a Sonoran menu

ROLANDO MORALES

THURSDAY 9/24 | 7-9:30P

Happy Hour

[illegible]:30-6PM



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WED - SAT

4:30-9:30 PM

Available for private luncheons at our restaurant & off-site catering 7 days a week.

VegaPaella.com



BLOCKS OF ART

ART WALK

FRI SEP 18, 2015 4-8PM

Late-Night Restaurants in Downtown Oakland, Jack London District, and Temescal

Analog

[illegible]

Bar Dogwood

[illegible]

Dan Sung Sa

[illegible]

District

[illegible]

Dragon Gate Bar and Grille

[illegible]

Gum Kuo

[illegible]

Home of Chicken and Waffles

[illegible]

Kang Tong Degi

[illegible]

Koryo Sushi

[illegible]


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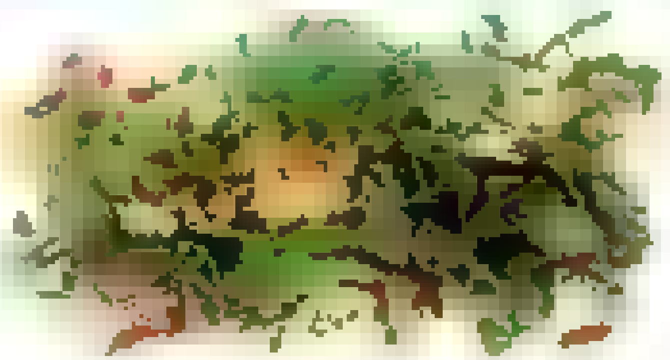

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Longitude

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Oriental B.B.Q. Chicken Town

Rudy's Can't Fail Cafe

Seoul Gomtang

Spices 3

Price Key

Fruitvale Beer Garden Opening Party





EUROMIX

Beer, Wine, Cheese
Sausage, Sweets, Fish
& More

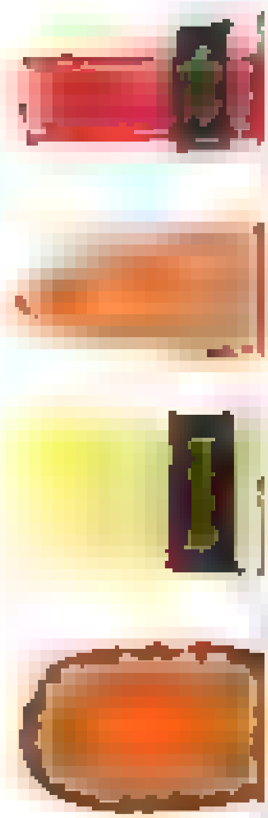
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THURSDAYS

SATURDAYS

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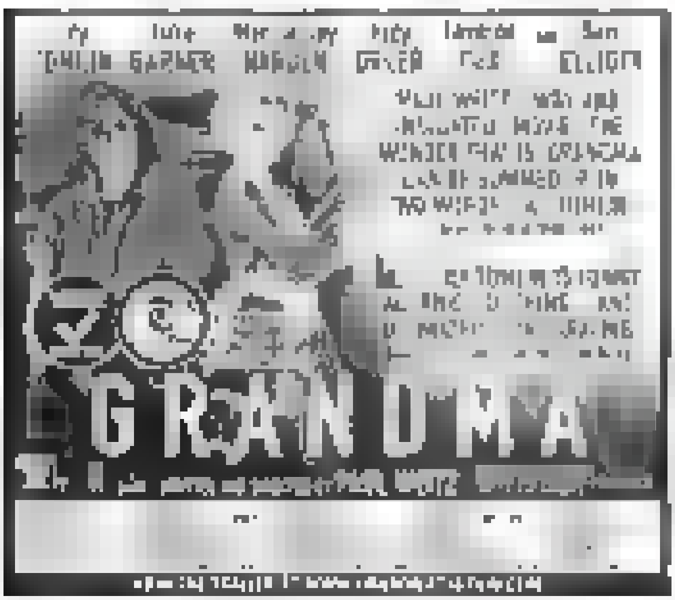
The New Girlfriend

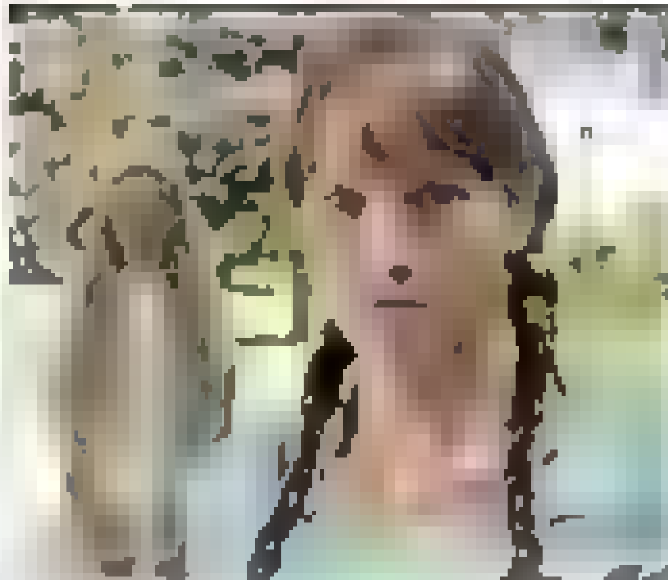
Sleeping with Other People

Showtimes Online



DOLBY
EAST BAY EXPRESS





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ALBANY TWIN

CALIFORNIA

PIEDMONT

SHATTUCK

SCENE

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SUPER BARGAIN DAY

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ON WEDNESDAYS

THE NEW girl FRIEND

START SEPT 18

MOVIE THEATER DIRECTORY

ONE-NIGHT STANDS

Friday, Sept. 10 8pm

$5



PARAMOUNT THEATRE







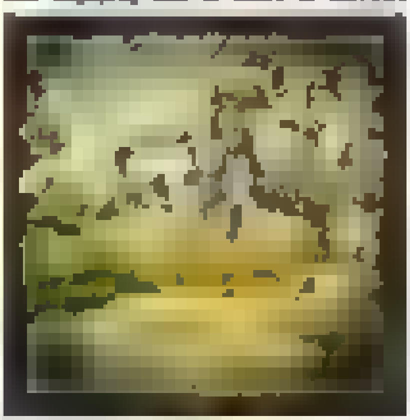
Harmonize in Spite

Whether out of rebellion or nostalgia, some musicians strip down and dive into what's underneath

By Sam Lefebvre

Shannon & the Clams

Gone by the Dawn





Astronauts, Etc.

Mind Out Wandering




SINGLE DAY TICKETS ON SALE THURSDAY
DEADMAU5
FKA TWIGS
AZEALIA BANKS
SHAMIR
BAIO
BOB MOSES
SKYLAR SPENCE
THE NATIONAL
CHVRCHES
FATHER JOHN MISTY
PANDA BEAR
EX HEX
MIKAL CRONIN
VIET CONG
OUGHT
LINEUP TBA SOON



Beats for Bedroom Poets

Oakland duo Sister Crayon crafts mercurial lyrics and intricate vocal arrangements on its latest album, Devoted.

By Nastia Voynovskaya


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SUN
ST. LUCIA
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
FOX
OAKLAND
VANCE JOY
Elle King
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KINKY
Big Gigantic



THURSDAY 17

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop



CCR Headcleaners

Bill Orcutt, Okkyung Lee, Chris Corsano

Psychic TV


GOLDLINK | LOS RAKAS
KOOL JOHN
BJ THE CHICAGO KID
NOODLES
SAKE ONE
GHOST & THE CITY
DJ SEAN G
WHISKERMAN

FRIDAY 18

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret





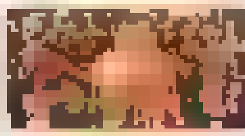




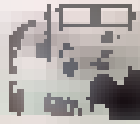
LEO'S

NATURAL CHILD

SAT 9-19 NORA JANE STRUTHERS & THE PARTY LINE



MIKE LOVE



BOBBITO STRETCH ARMSTRONG



RADKEY

9-22 THE SESSION

WED WICKED MAN

ABSTRACT RUDE

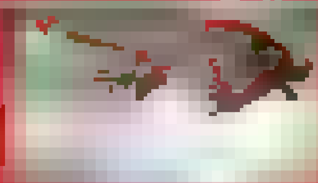
GUTTERMOUTH

THE AVENGERS MIDDLES

BLACK LODGE

THE NEW PARISH

WEDNESDAY 9-16



THURSDAY 9-24



SATURDAY 10-17

THURSDAY 9-17

WEDNESDAY 9-30

SATURDAY 9-19



TUESDAY 10-27

SUNDAY 9-20

SUNDAY 10-04



THURSDAY 9-22

FRIDAY 10-16

WEDNESDAY 9-23



MONDAY 10-05

FRI 10-30 & SAT 10-31

FRIDAY 9-25

FRIDAY 10-09

WEDNESDAY 10-14



THURSDAY 10-15

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FRI 9-18 NATURAL CHILD

SAT 9-19 BANG DATA
ROCAFLOJA



SUN 9-20 MEGAN LATHE AND THE PEACEMAKERS

MON 9-21 LE BUTCHERETTES

TUE 9-22 LULUC

WED 9-23 LÆTITIA SADIER

THU 9-24 TORTURED SOUL

FRI 9-25 KERMIT RUFFINS

SAT 9-26 POINTS NORTH

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Rock & Pop

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SUNDAY 20

Blues, Folk, & Country

Classical & Opera

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

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Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant Garde

Gospel & Vocal

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

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MONDAY 21

Blues, Folk, & Country

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret



Rock & Pop

Blues, Folk, & Country

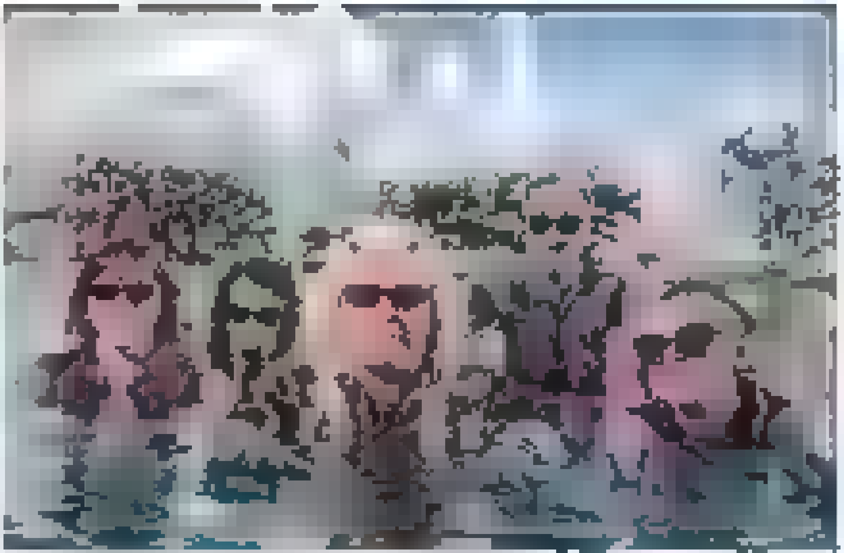
Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

TUESDAY 22

Blues, Folk, & Country

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret



Rock & Pop

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant Garde

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

WEDNESDAY 23

Blues, Folk, & Country

Experimental & Avant Garde

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop

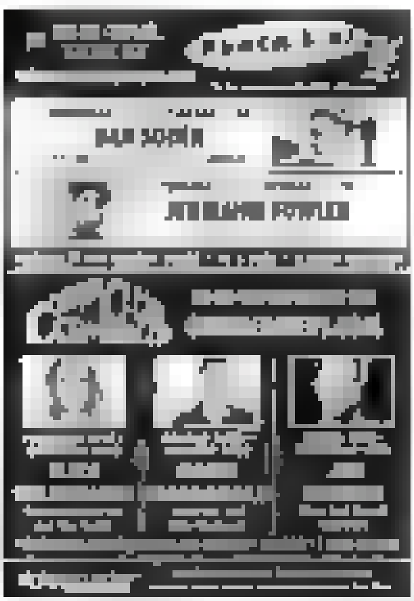
World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Blues, Folk, & Country

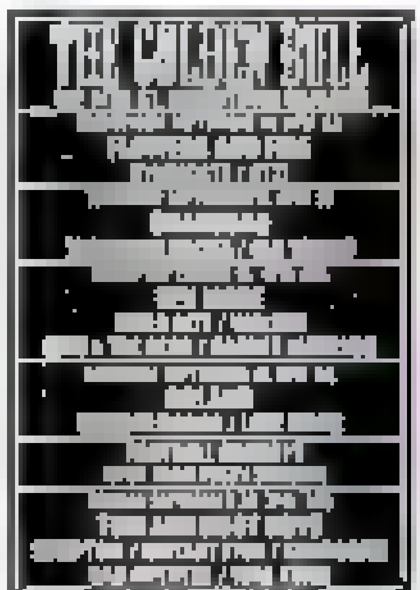
Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Rock & Pop

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip Hop





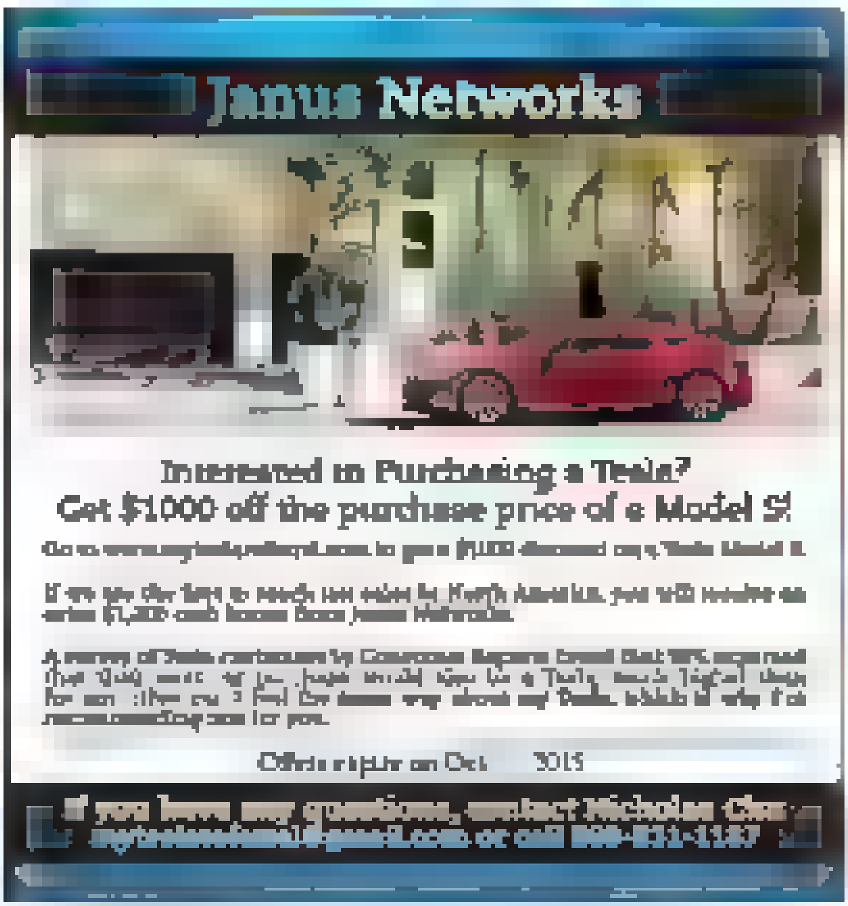












FRIDAY 18

SATURDAY 19

More Listings Online

SAN FRANCISCO

SUNDAY 20

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

MONDAY 21

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

More Listings Online

TUESDAY 22

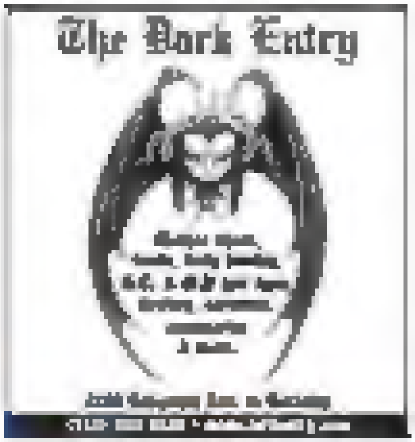
EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO

WEDNESDAY 23

EAST BAY

SAN FRANCISCO















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Minds Blown

If your kid is happy in a nonmonogamous relationship, you should be happy for him.

By Dan Savage

My son, who is almost thirty years old, was married four years ago. He just shared with us that for the last three years, he and his wife have been practicing polyamory. They are committed to their relationship but have each had relationships with both men and women. We are trying to get our heads around this, as we come from a more traditional background (we've been married forty years in a loving and respectful relationship), and we find ourselves feeling very sad. We are accepting and nonjudgmental, just trying to understand how he came to this decision. He feels that to make love "finite," to love only one person, is "not being true," and that their kind of relationship prevents dishonesty and is based on truth. He shared that his wife was the first one to broach this idea — and after many deep conversations, he eventually overcame his jealousy and is embracing this practice. They do not have children or plan to have children. I asked my son if he's happy, and he says he is.

Sad Mom

If your son says he's happy, SM, you should believe him and be happy for him.

It's unfortunate that your son framed the news about his choices and his marriage — which make him happy — in what sounds like a clumsy critique of your choices and your marriage. (If that's what he did, SM. I've only got your characterization of his comments to go on, not a tape recording of them, and it has been my experience that monogamous folks sometimes hear critiques of their choices when we nonmonogamous folks talk about our own choices. "We're not doing what you're doing" ≠ "You're doing it wrong.")

There's nothing inherently "false," unnatural, limiting, or dishonest about monogamy. If that's what two people want, SM, and it makes those two people happy, that's great. Monogamy is what you and your husband wanted, it's what made you and your husband happy, and it worked for your marriage. You could see your son's choice to be nonmonogamous as a rejection of everything you modeled for him, or you could see his choice as modeled on the fundamental bedrock stuff — for lack of a better word — that informed the choice you made. Your son and his wife are doing what they want, they're doing what makes them happy, and they're doing what works for their marriage. They're not doing monogamy [illegible], but they're doing what's right for them and what works for them — just like his mom and dad did.

There are lots of people out there in happy, fulfilling, open/poly relationships, SM, and lots of people out there in happy, fulfilling, monogamous relationships. (And there are lots of miserable people in both kinds of relationships.) There are also lots of people in happy, fulfilling monogamous relationships they will one day choose to open, and lots of people in happy, fulfilling, nonmonogamous relationships they will one day choose to close. It's happiness, consent, and mutual respect that matters, not whether a relationship is monogamous or nonmonogamous.

If your son is happy, SM, you should be happy for him. [illegible]

Two pieces of recommended reading: the book *Open: Love, Sex, and Life in an Open Marriage* by Jenny Block, and an [illegible] interview poly activist and frequent Savage Lovecast guest Diana Adams did with the *Atlantic*. But I don't think you need to do a whole lot of homework about this. Love your son, respect his choices, don't blame or shame his wife, and be kind to any partners they introduce you to. Having a poly kid is a lot simpler than you think.

I have no disagreement with what you said to letter writer WHIPPING (the man who wanted to know how to broach the subject of a female partner's unpleasant vaginal odor). But I wanted to add something that seems to be largely unknown: A common side effect of long-term SSRI use is that the scent and amount of sweat can change to be offensive and copious. While it's worth getting checked out if the person is unaware of the issue of an offensive genital smell (it could be a health issue), sometimes the cause turns out to be something the person is not willing to change because of the benefit it brings to their life. I've been in this position. [illegible] and my intimacy with my partner really suffered. [illegible] When I finally discovered the [illegible] in a list of side effects in a medical app, it was quickly confirmed by my prescriber as common but not talked about because it's not physically harmful, so other SSRI users may not be aware of the connection. Just wanted to let your other readers know!

[illegible]

Good info to have, [illegible]. Thanks for sharing.

[illegible]

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